



CTC Connections Newsletter September, 2022

From our Pastor:

I love going back to school shopping for supplies! Even tho I am not a student, I still get a thrill from buying new notebooks, pencils, and whatever else catches my eye. I use notebooks a lot! This year I bought two new notebooks for my sermons. The current one isn't full yet, but it will be, and since I use a particular style, I like to have the next one on hand!

There is something so special about a fresh notebook, a new box of crayons, a fresh start.

Over the years, I have gone to school a lot! I will get interested in something, check out the community college for a course on it, enjoy it so much that I take another class, and then another and then another! I love learning new things.

I have a friend who, when she learns something new during the course of a conversation will pause and say: "Every day is a school day!" I love that! I love the notion that we can learn something new each day. Sometimes I fear we get stuck in a rut, thinking that we know enough! Or sometimes thinking that we don't need to keep learning.

I encourage you, as school starts again, to keep your heart open to learning new things. God is always speaking to us. God is always doing a new thing! Buy a new notebook and fill it with all the wondrous new things God is speaking to you!

Grace and truth,

Pastor Jane



Lunch with Pastor is back! We will be begin meeting at noon, September 14! Pack your lunch and join us for fellowship and Bible Study. We talk about the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday. We also talk about whatever else is on our minds! Since this is not a cumulative study, you can come when you can! The fellowship is great, and what could be better than studying scripture? See you on the 14!

UPCOMING LECTIONARY READINGS:

SEPTEMBER, 2022



<p>Jeremiah 18:1-11 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 1 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33</p>	<p>At the potter's house, God says: Like clay, the people are in my hand. O Lord, you have formed me; I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Choose life and prosperity or death and adversity; obey the Lord. Those who delight in God's law will prosper like trees by the water. Paul writes to Philemon about Onesimus: welcome him as a brother. Speaking of towers and battles, Jesus explains the cost of discipleship.</p>
<p>Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 Psalm 14 Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-10 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10</p>	<p>God warns that a fierce wind of judgment will lay waste to the land. Fools say there is no God; there is no one who does what is right. Seeing the golden calf, God's wrath burns hot; but Moses intercedes. Have mercy, O God; I have sinned against you; wash me clean. Christ came to save sinners; God's grace has overflowed for me. Jesus tells the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin.</p>
<p>Jeremiah 8:18-9; 1 Psalm 113 Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13</p>	<p>My joy is gone; my heart is sick; is there no balm in Gilead? The nations have defiled your holy temple; deliver us, O God! The wealthy pursue their own interests and trample upon the poor. Blessed be the name of the Lord, who raises the poor from the dust. Instructions on prayer; there is one God, and Jesus is our mediator. The story of a dishonest manager; you cannot serve God and wealth.</p>
<p>Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Psalm 146 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31</p>	<p>Buy the field at Anathoth; houses and vineyards will one day return. The Lord says: Do not fear; I will deliver those who call on my name. Those with idle and comfortable lives will be first to go into exile. Do not put your trust in princes; God does justice for the oppressed. The love of money is the root of evil; be rich in good works instead. Jesus tells the parable of Lazarus and the rich man in Hades.</p>



TWO COINS A MEAL will continue to be collected on the first Sunday of each month during Worship Service. There will be a pail at the back of the Sanctuary marked as such. Please bring your coins in a plastic baggie or envelope if you can do so and place in the pail either on your way in or out of Church. Thank you.

GENESIS SUNDAY: Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11, 2022!!! It's Genesis Sunday and the beginning of our new church school year.

Spread the word and gather up the children, grandchildren, and friends. We will start the day with outdoor worship under the tent (weather permitting) which will be followed by a potluck meal. The meat and beverages will be provided, and we ask those who are able and willing to bring a dish to share.

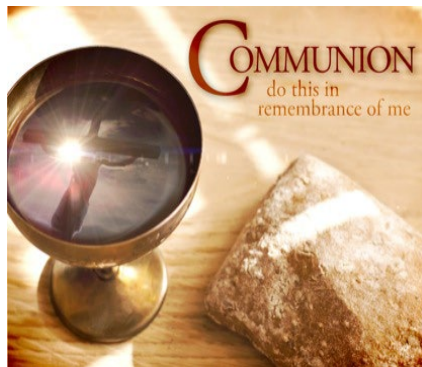


After the meal, there will be fun and games for everyone. You don't want to miss the famous "Cake Walk" and corn hole game, as well as other fun activities for the children and adults. If the weather doesn't cooperate, the party and meal will be moved to Fellowship Hall.



If you would like to make a dessert for the "Cake Walk", please see Barb or Dan Groom to let them know what you will be bringing.

We hope everyone can come and join in the fun!



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is

"HOMEBOUND COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED": A very important ministry at Countryside Trinity Church is serving communion to of our shut-ins. We are presently in dire need of volunteers to be a part of this ministry. The Deacons are searching for people who are willing to visit and serve communion several times a year to those unable to attend worship.

We go out in teams of two and to get started you would be teamed up with one of our current team members or you could form your own team. We are called to serve God and ALL members of our church family, and this would be a great opportunity to be a part of

this rewarding ministry.

Please prayerfully consider joining our Homebound Communion Team. Our current servers are: Mary Ann Parker, Lori Halase, Jackie and Dallas Williams, Kathy Loviska, Pat Denno and Dan Groom. If you have any questions about this ministry, please talk to any of our current servers, and when you are ready to join with us please contact Dan Groom. Thank you , The Deacons.

**YOUR SESSION/COUNCIL AT WORK,
AUGUST 21, 2022
MARY ANN PARKER, CLERK OF SESSION**

Following prayer by Pastor Jane Lynn Young, Pastor Jane introduced Linda Kennan, CTC's liaison with the Committee on Ministry from Presbytery of Lake Huron.

The Presbytery is in the process of talking with the churches to find out how Presbytery can best serve them to meet their particular needs. Linda asked several questions and recorded the answers to take back to committee. Linda was excused following the question-and-answer period.

FYI. Since Rev. Dr, Dan Saperstein resigned from his position at Presbytery in December, Presbytery council thought it was a good time to research the needs of the Presbytery and to move on from there regarding new leadership and possibly a new leadership model. In the meantime, Rev. Ted McCulloch from First Presbyterian in Saginaw and also the stated clerk of Presbytery, is acting head of staff. If there are problems in the Presbytery, Presbytery council, the staff, and various committees are available to address difficulties to assist Pastor Ted if needed.

Reports were then received.

Minutes of last month's stated session meeting approved.

Clerk's Report: Church membership is 114.

Communion was served to 27 parishioners on July 10 and to 28 on August 7, 2022.

For the Record: Letter received from Roger Scovill who reviewed the financial records for 2021 and found them to be in accordance with the transaction and reconciliation balances.

Treasurer's Report: Report for July received. *Actual donations are behind the budget by \$4,600 through 7/31/2022.* As of the end of July only \$53,000 has been pledged for the next year. Our budget for 2021 is approximately \$132,000.

Denominational Report: Next Presbytery meeting scheduled at First Presbyterian, Bay City on September 20, 2022, at 9:30 AM. The meeting will be held in person as well as on Zoom. Elder Commissioner needed.

PNC Report: The PNC has had one interview with a pastor. *Please continue to pray for the PNC.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building & Grounds: The format of the "Facility Usage Policy" will be changed to be less confusing by Loviska and Parker, then referred to Building and Grounds Committee for review and final approval.

Christian Outreach: Blehm reported that the August mission is Weiss School for school supplies. Christmas in July yielded many needed items for the Rescue Mission including \$274.00 which Lacker and Parker happily purchased items that were not donated. Purchased items included laundry detergent, fabric softener, waste basket liners, and cookie sheets, just to name a few. The items were delivered on 8/18/22. The \$2000.00 Courage Grant awarded to CTC from the UCC is being held at this time until we can further research where the money would do the best.

Personnel: Parker reported that we have a friend of the church who instructs interested people in Life Saving techniques and who is willing to instruct several people about CPR and the use of the AED device. Please see note in the newsletter regarding this event.

Spiritual Life: Motion sustained to affirm the verbal action taken to grant Jacob Groom a \$500.00 scholarship from the Muriel Lakey Scholarship Fund. Genesis Sunday will be celebrated on September 11, 2022 with a potluck luncheon following the church service. Church school for children will begin on September 11th. Pastor Jane will begin a Christian education program on Wednesdays for "Lunch with Pastor Jane."

NEW BUSINESS: Pastor Jane remarked that the pastor's study is not very eye appealing for a new pastor coming into CTC. Motion sustained to explore the possibility of moving the church office and the Pastor's office to the area off fellowship hall that once was the Christian educator's office and the pre-kindergarten room.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned with prayer by Pastor Jane at 12:35 PM.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT LEARNING CPR AND USING AN AED LIKE THE ONE WE HAVE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL? NOW IS THE TIME.

WE HAVE A FRIEND OF THE CHURCH WHO IS A CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR AND WHO IS WILLING TO TEACH SEVERAL PEOPLE IN LIFE SAVING TECHNIQUES. AS A CONGREGATION, IT WOULD BEHOOVE US TO HAVE SEVERAL PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH WHO CAN DO THIS IN CASE WE HAVE AN EMERGENCY WITH ONE OF OUR PARISHIONERS. I AM ASKING FOR SOME VOLUNTEERS TO COME FORWARD TO MEET OUR NEED. WILL YOU PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THIS?

IT IS A SKILL THAT YOU CAN USE WHEREVER YOU ARE AND IF AN EMERGENCY OCCURS.



COST IS NEGIBLE UNLESS YOU WANT A CARD AND THAT WILL COST ABOUT \$6.00.

TIME INVOLVED WILL BE ONLY A FEW HOURS.

DATE AND TIME WILL BE DETERMINED TO ACCOMMODATE ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

PLEASE CONTACT MARY ANN PARKER AT 989-793-4797 IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.



Pastor Nominating Committee: The Pastor Nominating Committee asks for your prayers as they continue with their search for a new pastor. Please pray that God would continue to guide and lead them to know Him better through their search. And . . . please pray that God gives them patience and strength as the search could go on longer than expected and it is very hard work.

Remember Our Shut-ins



Betty Burr Samaritas Senior Living	Joan Comstock @ Home	Dawn Curtis @ Home
Betty Hauk Wellspring Assisted Living	Floyd & Lois Krzak @ Home	Marie Lemmer Wellspring Assisted Living
Fern Evon Little Swan Haven Manor	Virginia Lyon @ Home	Norma Meacham @ daughter's in North Carolina
Elaine Miner @ Home	Fran Prueter @ Home	Helen Reynolds Wellspring Memory Care
	Judi Westendorf Bickford Assisted Living	

CHRISTMAS IN JULY: The Christmas in July project was a big success! We collected "gifts" for the Rescue Mission Impact Designs which helps furnish rooms and homes for those moving out of emergency shelters as well as \$274.00 which was used to purchase more of the needed items. Thank you to all who donated and made this project a **SUCCESS!**

Mission of the Month: The Mission of the month for September is City Rescue Mission. Their Vision statement is: Compelled by the love of God to equip the hurting and homeless of Mid-Michigan through guidance and godly care that leads our guests toward God-honoring, sustainable solutions, and permanent housing.



If you would like to help: **If you would like to help:**

- **Put your donation in an envelope marked "City Rescue Mission";** or
- **Write a check to CTC and put "City Rescue Mission on the memo line;** or
- **Mail your donation to CTC or put it in the offering basket while at worship service.**

OUTDOOR WORSHIP/PICNIC

We had a wonderful and fun day on Sunday, July 24, 2022. The overnight and early morning rain caused our worship service to be held in the Sanctuary, but we gathered under the tent for a delicious picnic lunch following the worship service. Here are some pictures for those of you who were unable to attend.



Obituary for Dorothy Joan (Vasey) Sievert: Age 85 of

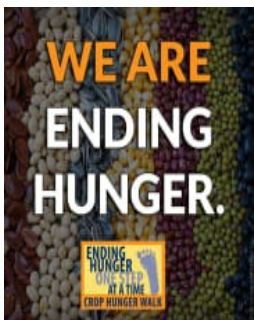
Saginaw passed away at Covenant Cooper on August 16th, 2022, after a struggle with cancer. Dorothy was born in Saginaw on November 16th, 1936 to Harvey H and Pearl E (Eddy) Vasey. Dorothy was a graduate of Arthur Hill High School in 1954. Dorothy lived a full life raising 3 children in Saginaw. She worked many occupations including Morley Bros. downtown, Bauers Jewelry, 1st Savings Bank, and sold real estate. She was very proud of opening and operating the Mother-To-Bee shoppe for over 10 years.



Dorothy was a member of the Bethlehem Order of the Eastern Star and served as Worthy Matron among other star points. She was a member of the American Legion 0439, and American Business Womens Association. Dorothy is survived by her 3 children: Bob (Kasee) Garske, Akron MI, Steve (Robin) Garske, Saginaw MI, and Linda (Manny) Ochoa, Tucson, AZ. One sibling survives Dorothy, Helen Peter, Austin, TX. She is survived by grandchildren: Rob (Lindsay) Garske, Stephanie (Curtis) Garske, Stacey (Jim) Miller, Jordan (Dave) Garske, Allison (Barret) Hendricks, Madison Morris, Mariah Morris and Morgan Garske. 5 great-grandchildren with one additional on the way. Dorothy also has many nieces and nephews which include special mention to Kathy and Dave Brushaber.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, husband William Sievert, siblings: Ruth (Don) Schultz, Jean (Pete) Thon, Earl Vasey, Herb Vasey, Bill (Lois) Vasey, Jewel (Nate) Fisher, infant brother David, nephew Tom Thon, and niece Diane Vasey.

In accordance with Dorothy's wishes there will not be a service or memorial. We simply ask you fondly remember your time with her. She has asked that you contribute to the Shiners Children Hospital, attn: Office of Development, 2900 Rocky Point Dr, Tampa FL 33607, or Countryside Trinity Church, 4690 Weiss St, Saginaw MI 48603 in her name.



CWS CROP Hunger Walk

- October 9, 2022: In 2022, CWS will continue to fight against disease, disaster, displacement, and other challenges that leave people hungry. Join with them as they raise

funds to help neighbors near and far get the meals they need for today and sustainable food security for tomorrow!

About CROP Hunger Walk

CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk events held in cities and towns across the United States raising

funds to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. Twenty five percent of the funds raised are returned to the host community to support local hunger fighting efforts Church World Service and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world.

CWS is directly responding to COVID-19 relief efforts through our hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster

response programs. Our CWS kits and blankets programs, as well as community support programs continue to address the increased needs to the local and global communities. The funds raised by CROP Hunger Walks go to support local hunger agencies and the programs of CWS.

CROP Hunger Walk History

The Crop Project was organized in 1947 when farmers were asked to donate food and seed crops to our hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia, a program that soon became known as the Christian Rural Overseas Program - CROP. In 1969 in Bismarck, North Dakota, and in 1970 in York, Pennsylvania, the first walk events were organized to raise funds to support CROP. Since then, CROP Hunger Walk events have been held in hundreds of communities large and small raising millions of dollars to eradicate hunger and poverty.

What Can You Do? You do not need to walk, but you can donate \$\$\$\$ to those that do. This year those collecting from Countryside Trinity Church are, Marcia Lacker, Kathy Loviska, Dan Groom, and anyone else that would like to volunteer. Please talk to Marcia for more information and to pick up your donation envelope.



FUNDRAISER FOR UKRAINE

As the war in Ukraine continues to escalate – the Christian Outreach Committee at Countryside Trinity Church is searching for ways we can help.

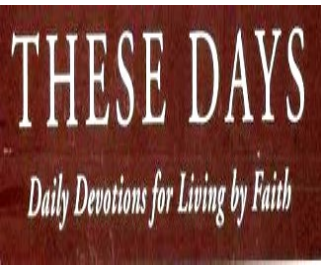
Both PCUSA and UCC have programs aimed at international disaster assistance to provide emergency humanitarian aid such as food items, shelter, medicines, diapers, hygiene items, etc. to war refugees and internally displaced people.

If you are able and desire to help, place your Donation in an envelope marked "Ukraine" in the collection basket at church or mail to Countryside Trinity Church, 4690 Weiss Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48603.

All monies collected at CTC will be divided equally between Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Disaster Assistance fund and the United Church of Christ's Disaster Relief fund.

By the generosity of our members and friends, we have collected over \$500 so far and will continue to do so until further notice.

Thank
You



These Days: *These Days* magazines are on the table in Fellowship Hall if you would like to pick one up. A donation jar is on the table.



Greeting Cards: A variety of greeting cards are on the table inside the East entrance to the building. Please leave your payment in the basket provided.

Facebook Prayer Group: Don't forget we have a Facebook Prayer Group on our FB Page. It is a private group where only those who are invited can see the messages posted for those in need of prayer. If you are on Facebook and would like to be invited, please call Kathy in the office so she can invite you to join. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact Kathy in the office to do so.



Be Respectful: Please be respectful during worship service and refrain from talking. Remember that once the Prelude begins and until the Postlude ends the Worship Service **is in progress** and is being livestreamed. During this time, we are to remain in our seats and listen to the beautiful music that is being played and the message our Pastor brings to us. We ask that you do not get up until the Postlude has concluded so as not to interfere with the livestreaming. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: You should have received your pledge card by now. If you did not, or if you have misplaced it, please contact the office (989) 793-0125 and one will be provided to you. We encourage all of you to prayerfully consider your pledges and if you have not yet turned your pledge in, please mail or drop off at the church. Thank you.

Boy Scout Troop 304: Our Scouts are having a bottle/can drive. Please gather your returnable bottles and cans and bring to church on or before September 11, 2022. Ask your neighbors, friends, relatives, and anyone else you think of to save their returnable bottles/cans too—let's help our Boy Scouts.

Community Rewards:

We received notice of our quarterly donation from Kroger as a participant in their "Community Rewards" program. We will receive \$49.32 which is a result of the 27 Households who have named Countryside Trinity Church as their "Charity" of choice. If you shop at Kroger, either groceries, prescriptions, or gas, and have not yet done so – go online to Kroger.com and search for "Community Rewards" and follow instructions to name Countryside as your charity. From then on, anytime you shop there and use your Kroger Plus Card we will



get a small percentage of your purchase price. It doesn't cost you anything, but every little bit helps CTC. Thanks.



Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Becky Pequignot
- 3 Rob Halase
- 3 Dora Fitzgerald
- 5 Charles Davis
- 8 Lindsey Groom
- 13 Louis Diechman
- 14 Michael Patrick Groom
- 17 Lois Krzak
- 20 Liz Saperstein
- 22 Amanda Dean Groom
- 25 Thomas Kennedy
- 29 Tom Ladner
- 30 Vincent Martinez

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Zachary Plater
- 2 Drew Pequignot
- 2 Dan Groom
- 3 Joseph Ruth
- 5 Mary Longstreth
- 6 Amanda Fulton
- 11 Jerry Paquette
- 13 Ethan Parker
- 13 Charlotte Armstrong
- 14 Mike Yusaf

- 14 Tania Yusaf
- 16 Randy Groom
- 17 Elizabeth Jacob
- 19 Christopher Davis
- 22 Jean Anne Miller
- 22 Pat Denno
- 25 Ezra Yusaf
- 25 Aaron Plater
- 26 Ashley Huizar (Scovill)
- 27 Marie Lemmer
- 29 Scott Jacob
- 29 Lori Halase

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 9 Roy and Nancy Erndt
- 20 Sydney & Kermit Diggs

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Aaron & Paula Plater
- 10 Eric & Sue Smith

COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH
4690 WEISS STREET
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48603

Happy Labor Day!

The Origins of Labor Day

The first observance of Labor Day is believed to have been a parade of 10,000 workers on Sept. 5, 1882, in New York City, organized by Peter J. McGuire, a Carpenters and Joiners Union secretary. By 1893, more than half the states were observing "Labor Day" on one day or another, and Congress passed a bill to establish a federal holiday in 1894. President Grover Cleveland signed the bill soon afterward, designating the first Monday in September as Labor Day.

Labor Day Prayer

Creator Lord, the source of all wisdom and purpose, and the blessing of those who labor; be with us in our work to guide and govern our world. Give to all people work that enhances human dignity and bonds us to one another. Give us pride in our work, a fair return for our labor, and joy in knowing that our work finds its source in you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*